

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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EASLEY APPOINTS KNIGHT AND TOMPKINS TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has appointed **James L. Knight** of Tarboro and **Mike D. Tompkins** of Ennice to the North Carolina Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board.

Knight is the sheriff of Edgecombe County. Before becoming sheriff in 1997, Knight was a detention officer, deputy sheriff and a D.A.R.E. officer. He also served in the U.S. Army in the 82nd Airborne for three years. He is a member of the N.C. Sheriff's Association Jail, Legislative, Resolutions and Probable Cause committees and the president of Edgecombe County Boys and Girls Club.

Tompkins has worked for New River Behavioral HealthCare for the past 29 years. He is a member of the steering committee for Substance Abuse Service at New River Mental Health, the Alleghany County Juvenile Task Force and the Alleghany County Department of Social Services. Tompkins is N.C. Division of Human Resources certified as an alcohol, drug education specialist, drug education counselor and substance abuse counselor II. Tompkins graduated from Western Carolina University.

The board advises the secretary of the Department of Correction on community-based corrections program priorities and reviews the application process and procedures for funding the programs. There are 22 members on the board, each serving a three-year term. The governor appoints seven members.

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